

FHS Program of Studies 2023 - 2024

Franklin High School

218 Oak St • Franklin, MA

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Our Core Beliefs



Passionate about learning

Active in the school community

Nurturing of others and self

Thoughtful and respectful in actions and words

High Performing so we can achieve our dreams

Engaged in our education

Responsible for our learning and decisions

Supportive of one another



Portrait of a Graduate



Academic Expectations for Student Learning

- Confident & Self-Aware Individual
- Empathetic & Productive Citizen
- Curious & Creative Thinker
- Effective Communicator & Collaborator
- Reflective & Innovative Problem - Solver



Our Process

- FHS Department Heads reviewed current courses outlined in Program of Studies (Principal's Council)
- DESE, Portrait of A Graduate, DEI, and SEL lens were used to make sure our offerings were in line with our core values and academic expectations
- Adjustments were proposed & reviewed by FHS and FPS administration
- Approved Adjustments are being presented to FPS School Committee
- FHS students will begin course selection process

Highlighted Adjustments

Increasing Graduation Requirements:

- Increase number of credits needed to graduate from 106.5 to 111.5.
- World Language (2 consecutive years of a single language) 10.0 Credits
- Art, Design and Media, or Performing Arts 5.0 Credits

The Why?

FPS Portrait Of A Graduate:

- Applies knowledge and skills to contribute to local, global, and environmental solutions with personal responsibility
- Employs self-reflection while being courageous, independent, and flexible in one's thinking. Expresses one's self creatively

New Offerings

Math :

AP Pre-Calc

Rationale for Course: This is the first year the College Board is offering AP Precalculus. For students that start in Algebra 1 at the high school level, they will have the opportunity to take AP Precalculus as a part of the typical course sequence. This course will give students experience with a college level math course prior to college. For students interested in non-STEM careers, a qualifying score in AP Precalculus may fulfill their college math requirement. For students interested in STEM careers, they will be ready to take a calculus class in college, or AP Calculus AB in high school.

New Offerings

Science:

Botany & Horticulture

Rationale for Course: Primarily we are offering this course as a means to address student interest in sustainable agriculture. Secondly this will be designed to provide a means to address a series of deep knowledge gaps with respect to plant morphology, physiology and genetics. Finally the course will provide an avenue for students to build out focal development of under utilized campus space including, reimagining of out space in the northwest forest margin, the open corner in the northeast courtyard, further development of the greenhouse space and the southwest forest margin. Each of these spaces would be developed to host a sustainable agricultural crop/crops including: native berries, zone ready fruit trees, and nut trees.

New Offerings

Science:

Physics AP II

Rationale for Course: Currently the only follow on course to AP Physics 1 is AP Physics C. The latter has a narrow but very deep focus on Electricity and Magnetism. The content is primarily for students pursuing an electrical engineering career path. AP Physics II on the other hand encompasses a wide range of topics (fluids; thermodynamics; electric force, field, and potential; electric circuits; magnetism and electromagnetic induction; geometric and physical optics; and quantum, atomic, and nuclear physics) and has greater appeal to general science students, and supports career paths of science, engineering, and medical fields. It's recommended to replace AP Physics C with this course and appeal to a greater number of students.

New Offerings

Science:

Programming and Building with Arduino

Rationale for Course: FHS offers students the opportunity to learn computer science and computer programming but we have no courses where students can further or apply that knowledge to solve real world problems. Virtually all objects that humans interact with contain a microprocessor or computer chip. This course helps students understand how these interactive devices work and better understand the world around them.

New Offerings

Art:

Television Production 3

Rationale for Course:

In recent years, advanced TV students have begun requesting to take Television Production 2 a second time, in order to gain more of this valuable real-world production experience. Creating a Television Production 3 course - to run concurrently with Television Production 2 - will allow for maximum collaboration between all advanced TV students. It will also keep our advanced TV students engaged in art courses into their senior year, when they can step up as leaders in the Media Arts program.

New Offerings

Art:

Film Production II (Post Production)

Rationale for Course:

Film production I is a course that focuses primarily on the production phase of movie production. That process often takes months to complete and rarely fits into one semester. In the past, the leaves editing that short film, which is often 3-5 hours worth of unedited footage, to one independent study student that may or may not be able to complete the final edit by themselves. Continuing the course gives students an opportunity to be involved with the final product.

New Offerings

Art:

Explorations in Art

Rationale for Course: As a school we have looked for opportunities for giving students, particularly Freshmen, an enriching alternative to Directed Studies. This one-semester art elective gives students exposure to a special topic in art, to be determined by the teacher. It is experiential in nature, and may include art making as well as learning more about art history and culture. For example, an Explorations in Photography course may include capturing images on cell phones, image editing, creating digital photo books, prints and some experimental processes like cyanotypes and hand-painting images. Other topics are possible (ie, Printmaking, Stop Motion Animation, the history and messaging of Poster Art, and so on).

New Offerings

Music:

Street Drumming

Rationale for Course: Street Drumming would serve as an introductory music class for students with no prior experience. Street Drumming is a style of music which involves drumming on plastic buckets and other objects to create melodies. Students will learn basic rhythm reading skills and perform both written and improvised pieces.

Rock Band

Rationale for Course: Rock Band will reach out to those musicians who play instruments and music that is not traditionally found in our current performing ensembles, such as electric guitar, electric bass, rock drum set etc. We feel that there is a community of 'garage band' musicians who would benefit from a structured approach to their music.

New Offerings

Health:

Sports Psychology

Rationale for Course: An introduction to Sport Psychology examines the cognitive, social, behavioral, and neurophysiological factors that influence performance in sport and other motor performance endeavors. The course will explore how sport psychology science and theory inform practical application of psychological and physical skills in youth, high school, college and professional athletics. This course will examine elements of sport psychology such as anxiety, self-confidence, motivation and goal setting, leadership, and group dynamics with sport and recreational activities.

Our Work:

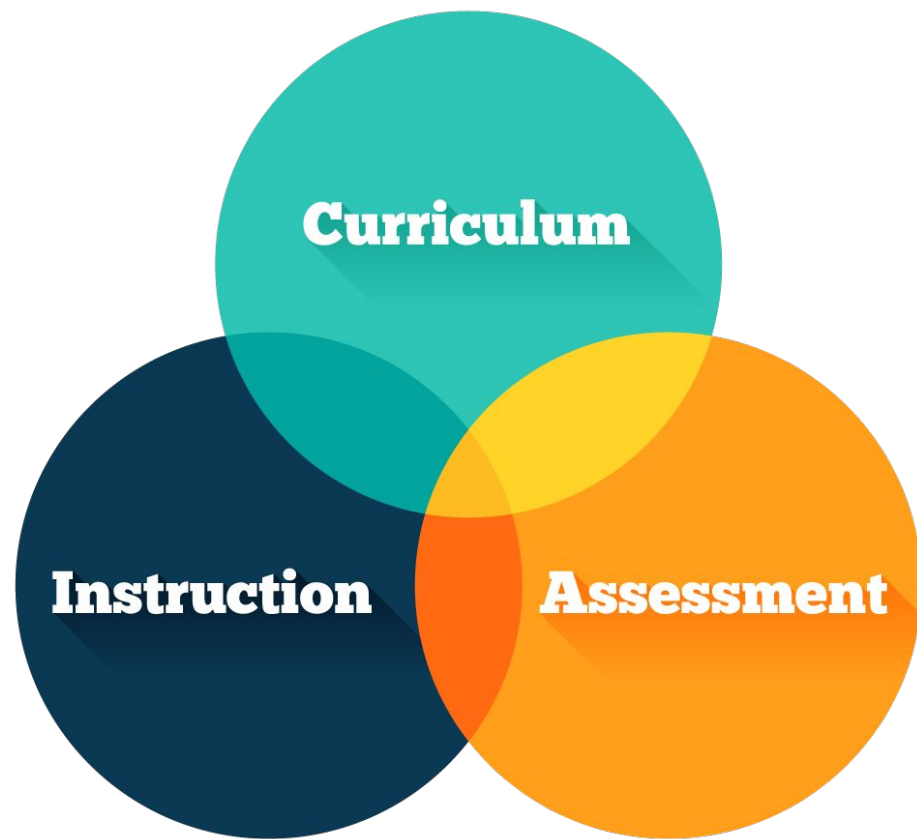
Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum

A guaranteed and viable curriculum is the variable most strongly related to student achievement at the school level.

Examples:

[Latin Unit 1](#)

Guaranteed and
Viable



Questions / Comments

